

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- This application is a continuation-in-part of copending United States Application No. ~~09/832,437~~ 09/311,555, now U.S. Patent No. 6,230,147, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING AN ELECTRONIC AUCTION DURING THE TRANSITION TO A CLOSED STATE,"~~[[,]]~~ filed May 14, 1999, which is a divisional of United States Application No. 09/252,790, now U. S. Patent. No. 6,230,146, filed February 19, 1999, which claims priority to U. S. Provisional Application No. 60/101,141, filed September 18, 1998, and U. S. Provisional Application No. 60/110,846, filed December 4, 1998. ~~April 11, 2001, previously assigned to the assignee of the present application, FreeMarkets, Inc.~~ --